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## **OAT WASH BRIDGE REPAIR COMPLETED ON I-15 NEAR BAKER**

**BAKER** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has completed repair work on the Oat Wash Bridge located 5 miles south of Baker on I-15. The bridge was originally damaged by flash floods in August 2003. Temporary repairs were implemented to facilitate the flow of traffic along I-15, with minimal disruption, while awaiting a contract to make permanent repairs.

In 2003, San Bernardino County experienced more than a fair-share of natural disasters. Flash floods in the desert, wildfires in the mountains and subsequent mudslides have presented a challenge for Caltrans, District 8. A portion of SR-18 known as the “the Narrows” has been closed to traffic since Christmas 2003. The slope stabilization project along SR-18 (the Narrows) is nearing completion. Extensive reconstruction of several sections of undermined roadway, drainage system improvements, debris fencing and guardrail replacements are included in this project. This roadway is scheduled to be open for the traveling public the week of August 15, 2004.

As always Caltrans’ goal is to Improve Mobility Across California, with the safety of the motoring public as our highest priority. Just a reminder when traveling through all construction areas stay alert, pay attention and keep an eye out for irresponsible drivers. Please slow for the cone zone.

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